

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:
5 operatively coupling a removable data storage media to a digital sender device;
causing said digital sender device to:
 optically scan at least one object to form corresponding scanned object data,
10 provide recipient address data,
 generate an outgoing message data using said recipient address data, said message data including said scanned object data,
 output said message data, and
 store said message data on said removable data storage device.
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2. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein operatively coupling said removable data storage media to said digital sender device further includes:
 positioning a writable optical disc in a writable optical disc drive within
20 said digital sender device.
3. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said scanned object data further includes a plurality of different versions of said scanned object data.
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4. The method as recited in Claim 3, wherein said plurality of different versions of said scanned object data includes a first resolution version

and a second resolution version, said second resolution version having a lower level of resolution than said first resolution version.

5 5. The method as recited in Claim 4, wherein causing said digital sender device to output said message data further includes:

 causing said digital sender device to output said second resolution version within said message data.

10 6. The method as recited in Claim 4, wherein causing said digital sender device to store said message data on said removable data storage device further includes:

 causing said digital sender device to store said first resolution version on said removable data storage device.

15 7. The method as recited in Claim 3, wherein said plurality of different versions of said scanned object data includes a first version and a second version, said second version being a data compressed version of said first version.

20 8. The method as recited in Claim 7, wherein causing said digital sender device to output said message data further includes:

 causing said digital sender device to output said second version within said message data.

25 9. The method as recited in Claim 7, wherein causing said digital sender device to store said message data on said removable data storage device further includes:

causing said digital sender device to store said first version on said removable data storage device.

10. The method as recited in Claim 4, wherein said message data
5 includes data selected from a group of data comprising scanned object data, recipient address data, timestamp data, authentication related data, device identifying data, control data, text data, graphics data, and image data.

11. An apparatus comprising:
10 a digital sender device having:
a data storage device configurable to access a removable data storage media,
a scanning mechanism configurable to scan at least one object and produce corresponding scanned object data,
15 a communication interface configurable to operatively connect to at least one network,
a user interface configurable to receive user inputs, and
logic operatively coupled to said data storage device, said scanning mechanism, said communication interface, and said user
20 interface, wherein said logic is configured to combine recipient address data from said user interface with at least a portion of said scanned object data to form message data that is then output by said communication interface and stored by said data storage device on said removable data storage device.

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12. The apparatus as recited in Claim 11, wherein said scanned object data further includes a plurality of different versions of said scanned object data.

5 13. The apparatus as recited in Claim 12, wherein said plurality of different versions of said scanned object data includes a first resolution version and a second resolution version, said second resolution version having a lower level of resolution than said first resolution version.

10 14. The apparatus as recited in Claim 13, wherein said logic is configured to include said second resolution version within said message data that is output by said communication interface.

15 15. The apparatus as recited in Claim 13, wherein said logic is configured to include said first resolution version within said message data that is stored by said data storage device.

20 16. The apparatus as recited in Claim 12, wherein said plurality of different versions of said scanned object data includes a first version and a second version, said second version being a data compressed version of said first version.

25 17. The apparatus as recited in Claim 16, wherein said logic is configured to include said second version within said message data that is output by said communication interface.

18. The apparatus as recited in Claim 16, wherein said logic is configured to include said first version within said message data that is stored by said data storage device.

5 19. The apparatus as recited in Claim 11, wherein said message data includes data selected from a group of data comprising scanned object data, recipient address data, timestamp data, authentication related data, device identifying data, control data, text data, graphics data, and image data.

10 20. The apparatus as recited in Claim 11, further comprising:
a multiple function device that includes:
said digital sender device, and
a printer mechanism operatively coupled to said logic within said
digital sender device, and wherein said logic is further configured to
15 cause said printing mechanism to print out at least a portion of said
message data.